

# BINNACLE

*California Maritime Academy*



## MARITIME DAY MAY 23



MAY 1960

IN THIS ISSUE:

BE SURE AND READ "MORROW COVE SOCIETY"  
(the article that killed the BINNACLE)



The BINNACLE is a monthly publication of the Corps of Midshipmen of the California Maritime Academy

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Corps, the Faculty or the Administration of the Academy, but are merely those of the staff.

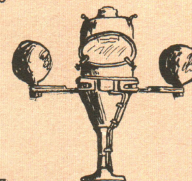


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## BINNACLE SPEAKS

Well, what's the going price on shoe leather these days? That is what some of the unfortunates are asking that have been marching every afternoon on the blacktop.

The advent of this "Awkward Squad" has caused a lot of talk among the corps. (See OPINION, page 6) The main point being that this is something entirely new here. It has been successfully attempted at other academies such as Kings Point. But the tried and proven programs differ somewhat from ours. It is these differences that I wish to take issue with.

Let me point out at this time that I feel the "A Squad" serves a purpose in so far as giving meaning to those small offenses pertaining to personal appearance. There is no doubt that the general appearance of the corps has improved. The squad does help us to keep on our toes and marching doesn't hurt ones feet as much as ones pride.

What I have to contend though is the way that the acceptance to this selective group is determined. The offense "UNMILITARY IN BEARING" is killing the whole purpose of the "A Squad". When you extend the membership to include this offense, you have in effect included every offense imaginable. Is

it not true that the main purpose of this reprimand is to improve personal appearance as mentioned at the outset? Then doesn't it logically follow that the only offenses that should pertain to the "A Squad" should be those that are of a similar nature? In my opinion the offense "UNMILITARY IN BEARING" is as ambiguous an offense as can be conceived. It is used mostly by those who can't find any better offense to stick someone with when they have no real reason to one on report.

If the "A Squad" is to accomplish its purpose it should include those offenses that are directly related to the cause only. Also the mast should exercise special care in handing down decisions related to personal appearance.

Of course with something of this nature we will have continuous complaints, especially from those involved. But if the squad is run in a controlled, fair manner so that no one can blame anyone except themselves for being on it, this is when we will be accomplishing something worthwhile because one, the corps on the whole will be spiffier, and secondly, the need for an "A Squad" will become all but non-existent as the condition of personal appearance steadily improves.

### CONGRATULATIONS

A number of highly complimentary comments have been received concerning the conduct of the group of 2nd Class Engineer Midshipmen which recently visited the Mare Island Naval Shipyard.

Such reaction to contacts with individual Midshipmen reflects credit on the entire corps. This is in the best tradition of the Academy and I wish to extend congratulations to all involved.

H. E. Richter  
Superintendent

DIAN



Her name is Dian. She's a 5'5", beautiful beauty from our humble part of the country of Joe Gau.

Possibly a mutual friend years ago in the past was delivered Joe. They have about three years senior at Poly.

Her active life she loves to swim, shoot, the last from Joe. With Joe also adds fast. But Dian (sides Joe) is a professional much of her time spent rehearsing school, she is where she has a engagement waiting to stay about 5. And to show how is, she plans to courses also. coming back to.

She also has the Academy men in to know who how Mac and O'R.

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Marriage p



# MIDDIE'S CHOICE

DIANE BROWN



Her name is Diane Brown, and she's a 5'5", blue-eyed, blond haired beauty from Long Beach, appearing in our humble paper through the courtesy of Joe Gautreau.

Possibly they were introduced by a mutual friend, as Diane was born 18 years ago in the same hospital and was delivered by the same doctor as Joe. They have known each other for about three years and Diane is now a senior at Poly High in Long Beach.

Her activities are varied, and she loves to swim, bowl, and target shoot, the latter which she learned from Joe. With a slight forced laugh, Joe also adds she likes to drive fast. But Diane's main interest (besides Joe) is dancing, at which she is a professional, and she spends much of her time in lessons and constant rehearsals. Upon graduation from school, she is going east to Boston where she has a 12 week dancing engagement waiting for her. She plans to stay about six months altogether. And to show how ambitious she really is, she plans to take a few college courses also. After that she will be coming back to the West Coast.

She also has an avid interest in the Academy men, and is always wanting to know what they're doing, and how Mac and O'Reilly are.

Joe flew Diane up to school for last years Ring Dance and is hoping to do the same this year. She is definitely coming up for graduation. I think, by looking at her picture, you will agree that Joe has got himself quite a girl.

Marriage plans-June 26, 1961???

ANN RICHARDSON



Leave it to a Marine to pick a winner, and Ralph Vicenti has come through in true marine style. Ann, "Ralph's Raving Beauty", was born on August 16, 1938 in Coos Bay, Oregen. She is now at the "legal age" of 21.

Ann studied two years at the University of Oregon and is now attending Long Beach State College where she is studying to become an Elementary School teacher. Since Ann is a senior this year it fits right in with any plans which Ralph may have concerning marriage.

Ann, who stands 5'8" tall, with lovely brunette hair and baby blue eyes, first met Ralph after his third class cruise. For two years now Ann and Ralph have shared many happy moments. Her main interest, besides Ralph, is that of reading famous novels. By the way guys, Ann has four beautiful sisters also. We thought that would be interesting to many of you, see Ralph for further details.

So we leave Ralph and Ann to any future plans they may have with best wishes for both of them, with this thought in mind, even though Ralph and Ann were born in two different hospitals and delivered by two different doctors (what a coincidence huh!!!) they still met each other, so you see fellows love knows no boundaries.

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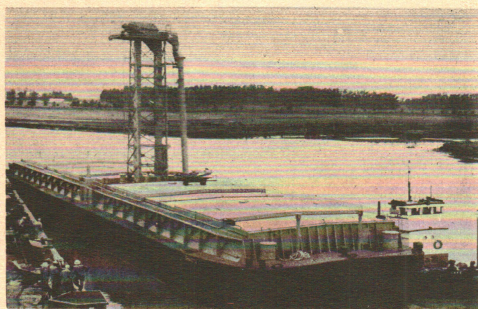
MAY 23, 1960 ???



## NEWS

### SELF-UNLOADING GRAIN BARGE

The largest self-unloading grain barge ever built in the West has just been completed at the shipyards of Kaiser Steel's, Napa, California, Fabricating Division Plant for River Lines, Inc., San Francisco Daily Commercial News. The barge's initial job will be hauling grain on California's extensive inland water system.



GRAIN BARGE "Shasta" leaving Kaiser Steel's Napa, Calif., Fabricating Division yard

### KINGS POINT INVESTIGATION

The United States Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, L.I. is conducting an intense evaluation of its present curriculum.

A special advisory committee has been established to judge the Academy's educational material and questionnaires are being sent to former students for this purpose. A faculty committee will also evaluate the program of courses.

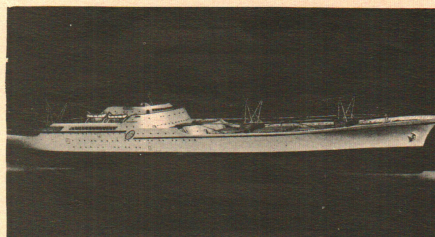
The results of the survey which is expected to be completed this year, will "not necessarily change the curriculum" said an Academy Spokesman.

The alumni questionnaire is being sent to all graduates who are aboard Merchant Ships or employed by steamship companies. The questions seek to determine from the graduates point of view the courses which were the most helpful, and any which were not included but which should have been.

### CMA GRADS SELECTED FOR SERVICE ABOARD SAVANNAH

Two former middies of our institution were selected to serve aboard the nuclear ship the Savannah.

They are Captain Blanckenberg, class of 42, from Berkeley, and Captain Mc Michael of Polson, Montana, class of 32. Both men had led colorful lives on the sea since their graduations.



### SAVANNAH STAMPS URGED

A movement has been quietly growing to have a United States postage stamp or stamps devoted to the nuclear ship, Savannah.

Now, if ever a man had a public relations idea of worldwide impact, it was President Eisenhower when he advocated the nuclear cargo-passenger ship. It was certainly not a commercial idea-- The President, the shipping industry, and everyone else concerned knows that nuclear marine propulsion will not be economically feasible for years yet. Nor was it in a strict sense, a project to test technical feasibility a tanker might have done that much better. No, it was and is primarily an appeal to the world's imagination, an exhibit in evidence that we want to use atomic power for the benefit of all men, a ray of hope for the future.

What is needed is the kind of stamp which will be seen, not once or twice, but over and over again, by Americans who are woefully ill-informed on their Merchant Marine, and by the millions in other countries who are the real target of this great information project. It is international public relations on the highest level.

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# MORROW COVE SOCIETY

by Mrs. Louella Loudmouth

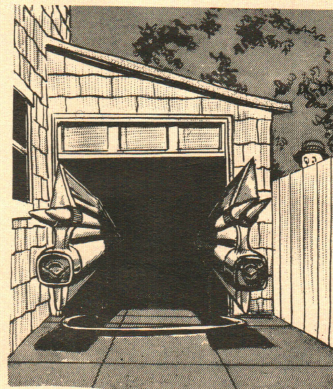


It has been rumored that the Frank Flanner's of the plush Faculty Drive Estates are about to take an extended trip through the country. The highlights of their trip will include a five day stay at the exclusive Jacuzzi Pump Hotel where Mrs. Flanner is to receive a lifesize, gold-plated, reciprocating steam pump which she will proudly display on her charm bracelet. From San Francisco they will be flown by Endrody's Airways, Ltd. to New York where they will dine at the world famous Verdi Square Delicatessen in Manhattan which is owned by Apallo Savrides. After that they will be introduced to New York's nightlife at Juris's Bar and Grill of Brooklyn. From here they will take a short side trip to Island Creek Coal Mines under the supervision of Mr. J. H. Green where Miss Flanner, prominent debutant daughter of the Flanner's will have an opportunity to load sixteen tons of number nine coal. The last leg of the happy Flanner's trip will be to San Diego, where they will register at the Hotel Del Coronado. While there, they will dine at the exclusive Henry's Drive-in. We sincerely wish the Flanners a pleasant trip.

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A late model, shiny, ebony black Jaguar which is valued somewhere in the neighborhood of Fourteen Thousand dollars has been seen on numerous occasions on Faculty Drive. Could it be that playboy Lt. Stites is breaking into the social bubble?

It is rumored that The R. D. Herons, who reside at the Morrow Cove Manor on Faculty Drive, are inviting the graduating class of 1960, in addition to the usual Morrow Cove Society, to a festive affair on Maritime Day, May 22. A large pool side barbecue is planned with French Chef, Francois Ross, in charge of dinner. It is my personal opinion that the reason for this affair is to show off their new model of transportation, for which they built a special temperature controlled garage, for their personnalized 1960 Alpine white Cadillac. This automobile was ordered specially by Cmdr. Heron from the President of General Motors, and is valued at \$21,936.82 F.O.B. !!! It features a self-waxing paint, vibra cushion seats, radar controlled braking, two-way radio-television, Sun Drop vending machine, and the usual spare tire in the trunk has been replaced by a late model M. G. A. I'm sure that all who have been fortunate enough to be invited will be sincerely grateful and will be joyously looking foward to next years return party. HAPPY MOTORING, FOLKS!





## OPINIONS

This new feature of your BIN-NACLE offers you a chance to personally voice your opinion and offer constructive criticism on a point of current interest in which you may be involved. Our quest this month is to find out what you think of the newly formed "Awkward Squad". It was formed

### WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?



The administration has composed a "New Drill Team" which meets Monday thru Friday from 1610 to 1640 for the purpose of Midshipman self improvement. It is too early to say if the "New Drill Team" will give the necessary motivation for the Midshipmen, however the personal appearance of the Corps of Midshipmen has improved greatly in the past week. The chance to make the "New Drill Team" has made the competition for the BEST DRESSED MAN on campus extremely keen. The "New Drill Team" is in step with every other organization on the California Maritime Academy campus in that it has its own nick name—"THE RINKY-DINK CLUB".

M/s R. L. Ferbrache 1/c E  
&  
M/s G. E. Simmons 1/c E

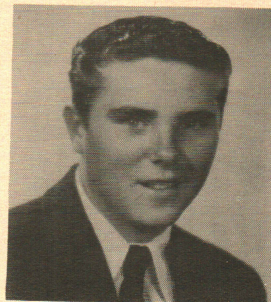


Even though the "A Squad" is turning out a weekly group of fairly well co-ordinated individuals, the main purpose should not be looked

at the beginning of the trimester to improve primarily the personal appearance of the corps. Do you think it is accomplishing this purpose? Do you think it is being misused? Do you think this is the best way to approach the problem?

upon as one to improve the military maneuvering ability of the corps. I feel that the main purpose of the squad is that of a punishment, a hardship above and beyond the report sheet and restriction. It has been repeatedly stated that the report sheet isn't worth the match to burn it. This is especially true of the 3 or 5 demerit type. The "A Squad" puts the fangs in these report sheets and helps them to better their purpose. The success of this plan, in my opinion, will depend upon the discretion used by upperclassmen in regard to the issuance of the report sheets pertaining to unmilitary appearance and the perseverance of the officers in seeing that justice is done by all concerned.

M/s M. A. Rose 2/c D



Well as we all know we are in the age of the "Awkward Squad". Whether this craze will last is, as of yet, not known. It is the general opinion of the third class that the "Awkward Squad" has brought about an over all improvement in as far as the spiffiness of the corps at the morning inspection. But is it being carried too far? That is the question now in their minds. Who ever heard of chipping paint or working on a boiler in spotless dung-eries? Dungrees were made to work in not to parade in review at someones delight. How long do you think that this whim will last?

M/s Felland 3/c E

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## BIGGEST AND BEST YET... RING DANCE '61

The social event of the year here at the Academy took place Saturday in San Francisco at the St. Francis Hotel. An official count numbered 304 persons in attendance. These included not only the Midshipmen, but also, Captain Richter, Superintendent, and Mrs. Richter, Cdr. Heron, Commandant, and Mrs. Heron, Cdr. Flanner, Chief Engineer, and Mrs. Flanner. Several other officers were also in attendance with their wives. A number of Alumni were present in addition to those mentioned above.

It is generally opinionated that this Ring Dance was not only the largest but also the best. The dinner was excellent as was the service, and the ceremony and other events came off smoothly. Music was provided by Sal Carson's band and the dancing in spite of the slightly crowded floor was most enjoyable.

Two of the Midshipmen who received their rings that night also an-

nounced their respective engagements. M/s Tom De Lacy and Miss Diane Schwab of Vallejo are one of the couples contemplating marriage. Also M/s Rodney Spence's engagement was announced??

A special thanks should be given to those who were responsible for the planning and production of this memorable affair. First of all to Mr. Behm who was the faculty advisor for the function. Then the different committees who were very essential and included M/s Wilms, De Lacy, Juris, Johanson, Wilburn, Bowman, Rose and Nelson, just to mention a few. Also a note of gratitude to the first and third class for their support of this affair as evidenced by the numbers of them present.

It took a lot of hard work but this will be one thing that all the members of the class of 1961 will remember always with fond memories.

## GUN CLUB



One of the extra curricular activities here at the Academy that has come into the limelight lately is our Gun Club. They have scheduled some matches with the top shooting organizations of Northern California. This week a meet with the California Highway patrol is planned. Also, meets with the Berkley Police and Mare Island Police are planned for this trimester, in addition to a rematch with the Marines from Mare Island who were beaten so terribly here last trimester.

Mr. Sargent, who is the coach of the team, expressed a desire to see some third classmen become interested in shooting in an effort to get some young blood in the club. Most of the

top shooters now are first class and won't be with us much longer. With a little practice, you too could become a good shot. Even if you can't put the bullets in the clip right, don't let that stop you, Mr. Haack and Mr. Sargent are very willing to help you.

M/s Gautreau, who is the club's President, is also one of the club's top marksmen. To qualify for a meet you must get 250 points out of a possible 300. This may sound a little difficult, but we have seven members that shoot over 250 most of the time.

If you are interested or even just curious about shooting contact Mr. Sargent now. (It's a good way to relieve pent up emotions during the week.)



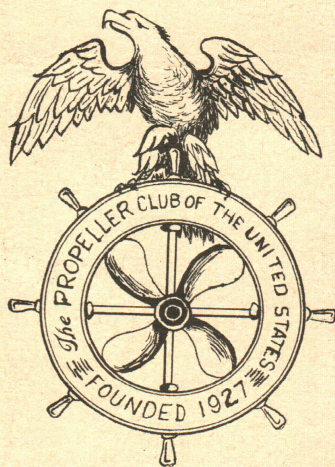
CALIFORNIA MARITIME ACADEMY  
VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA

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Supporting The American Merchant Marine  
Propeller Club Of The United States



Port Of California Maritime Academy  
Membership Applications Being Accepted  
By Goings, Bonham, Zetterberg, Graham